国公立大 英語 ＜読解編＞

この講座は，いよいよ迫る本番の入試に備えて，志望校レベルの過去問を通じて，実践力をつけていく構成となっています。本番を想定して，**20 ～ 30 分と時間を決めて，問題を解いてみてください。**本テキストの全ての問題が，**地方国公立大学の過去問**を使用しています。

次に，**1 時間と決めて，予習にしっかりと取り組んでみてください。**わからない単語を辞書で調べて意味を書き込む。カッコやスラッシュを使って，文構造を意識して，一文一文の意味を考えてきてください。

この直前期でも，授業後に，**長文は必ず音読を十回やってもらいます。**例年第一志望に合格した生徒たちが口をそろえて言います。授業後の音読十回のおかげで，本当に英語長文がすらすら読めるようになりましたと。それから，本テキストにある全ての単語を必ず覚えることもとても大切な復習となります。

地道な作業の積み重ねこそが，大事を成す唯一の手段であること。そして，授業を聞くだけの受動的な姿勢ではなく，**予習，復習を自らする能動的な姿勢こそが，大事を成す基本**であることは，この時期でも何ら変わらないので，お忘れなく。

肘井　学

目　次

第１講　国公立大英語長文演習①　p2

第２講　国公立大英語長文演習②　p10

第３講　国公立大英語長文演習③　p18

第４講　国公立大英語長文演習④　p26

第１講 国公立大英語長文演習①

次の英文を読んで，問に答えなさい。

Newspapers mean different things to different people. A variety of functions can be attributed to the different needs of advertisers, readers, owners, editors, politicians, governments, among others. However, it is possible to argue that the newspaper carries out two distinct communication functions. According to cultural theorist James Carey, newspapers, like other news media, work by transmitting information and bringing readers together as part of a community. He labels these two functions: (A) <u>the transmission model and the ritual model</u>. The former model is more familiar to us. We all accept that the newspaper's most important and *exacting task is the provision of a daily supply of news. However, more careful scrutiny indicates that the pages of newspapers have historically included a variety of often conflicting and (ア) material. The indeterminate nature of their content and form is a feature of newspapers. *The Daily Universal Register*, which became *The Times, drew attention in its first issue in 1785 to the need to cater for a wide variety of interests: "A newspaper," it stated, "ought not to be *engrossed by any particular object, but, like a well covered table; it should contain something for every *palate."

NOTE

The incorporation of other types of publication is an essential ingredient in the development of the newspaper. (B) Advertisements are one obvious example of content with the supply and analysis of news. Editorial and leading articles can be traced back to the handwritten newsletters of the seventeenth century which provided commentary on contemporary events. Puzzles and pastimes such as crosswords have helped readers *while away the time spent with their newspaper. The serialization of fiction, stories and novels in nineteenth-century newspapers is a further example of how non-news and non-information content has always been an essential ingredient of the newspaper. Media theorist Denis McQuail draws attention to the（　イ　）purpose of the newspaper. Thus to see the historical development of the newspaper through the prism of the conveyance of news and information is to exclude a variety of content newspapers serve up.

NOTE

The provision of news nevertheless has had a（　ウ　）impact on the form and content of the newspaper. It has been responsible for several factors that have shaped its production, distinguishing it from other forms of printed news. Regular and（　エ　）publication is one feature. Newspapers have been published throughout history at different intervals; monthly, weekly, tri-weekly and daily have been the most common forms. (C)(at / attempts / but / have been / ineffective / other intervals / proven / tried). Printed news began as a *one-off publication; a single account of an event written much longer after it had happened, it was labelled a "relation" and the lapse between the occurrence and its reporting was so long that it was only sufficient to mention the year in which the event took place. Subsequently the newspaper established the regularity of publication we associate with the modern daily paper. The regularity of publication, whether daily, weekly or monthly, has implications for what appears in a newspaper and how it operates. The gathering of news and information ceases to be a casual operation and becomes a more systematic and deliberate attempt to collect and process the latest information. (D) The new formats and methods devised to respond to regular publication determine the content and presentation of newspapers.

（注）exacting 厳密な注意を必要とする　　The Times 英国の代表的な新聞
engross（会話などを）独占する　　palate 味覚。好み
while away のんびり（時を）過ごす　　one-off 一回限りの

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NOTE

1. 下線部（A）の 2 つのモデルの機能について，日本語で簡潔に説明しなさい。

2. 下線部（B）を日本語に訳しなさい。

3. 下線部（C）が「他の発行間隔の試みもなされたが，効果がないことが明らかになった」という意味になるように，（　　）内の語句を並べ替えなさい。（文頭は大文字にすること。）

4. 下線部（D）を日本語に訳しなさい。

5. 文中の空欄（　ア　）～（　エ　）のそれぞれに入る最も適切な語を ① ～ ④ の中から選び，番号で答えなさい。ただし，同じ語を 2 回使用することはできません。

① considerable　　② contradictory　　③ frequent　　④ multiple

NOTE

第２講　国公立大英語長文演習②

次の英文を読んで，設問に答えなさい。

Comedies are popular on television. Examples include such programs as “Friends” and “The Simpsons.” One reason that these television comedies are funny is because they use an effective mix of jokes. One kind of joke in these television comedies is called a “running gag.” A running gag is a funny situation or line of dialog that happens repeatedly in a comedy. This repetition can take place within a single episode, from one episode to the next, or both.

Running gags (1) <u>actually</u> started to be used prior to the widespread adoption of television, in radio comedies during the “golden age” of radio. This era lasted from around the 1930s until the 1950s. One of the most popular of these shows was called “Fibber McGee and Molly.” This radio comedy was about a husband and a wife and was especially famous for one running gag. In this running gag, when the husband, Fibber McGee, opened his closet to find something, many things would fall out every time.

The audience could know that these things were about to fall out because Fibber would announce in a loud voice that he was about to open his closet. Obviously, given that this was a radio comedy, the audience could only hear what was happening. When Fibber opened his closet, a variety of loud sounds could be heard as if many different types of objects were falling to the floor. The fact that people could only hear what was happening was (2) <u>an advantage</u> rather than a limitation. The power of the imagination increased the effectiveness of this particular gag.

NOTE

Although television comedies became more popular than those on the radio during the 1950s, they continued to use many of the same techniques as their radio predecessors. One of these was the running gag. Some good examples can be found in a 1970s television comedy called “Happy Days,” a very popular show about a group of friends in high school. This television comedy used many running gags with most of them being about one of the main characters, a young man by the name of Arthur Fonzerelli. He was a very cool individual who wore a leather coat and rode a powerful motorcycle. The running gags used in this television comedy were often connected to his reputation for being cool. For example, when he passed a mirror, he would take his comb out of his pocket to touch up his hair. But when he looked at himself in the mirror, he put his comb back quickly every time because he thought he was perfect. (3) It was as if no further improvement to his appearance could be made; he was so cool that not even a single hair was ever out of place. Also, looking in the mirror, he would put his thumbs in the pockets of his pants like a model posing for the cover of a magazine. This body language made it funnier because he looked very confident and proud of himself. In another running gag, he could fix broken toasters or cars just by tapping on them briefly or simply by snapping his fingers. This also demonstrated his cool personality and was funnier because of (4) its impossibility. It was as if a person could be so cool that they could even influence machines.

NOTE

(5) Running gags seem to work for different reasons. First, they are very humorous. They also work because people like familiar things. People can feel satisfied when something happens predictably, thus meeting their expectations. The running gags presented here occurred repeatedly in a number of episodes of these programs. Of course, if the same running gags are used too much, they run the risk of becoming boring. For this reason people who write television comedies have to be careful not to rely upon them too extensively.

［2015 年度 北海道大学］

NOTE

問１　下線部（1）の語が使われている理由を，(A)～(D) の中から選び，記号で答えなさい。

(A) Television was very popular from the 1930s to the 1950s.

(B) The “golden age” of radio lasted 20 years rather than continuing to the present.

(C) Readers may be surprised to learn that running gags started in radio comedies.

(D) Both the Fibber McGee and the Happy Days running gags are surprisingly similar.

問２　下線部（2）は，何が，どういう理由で，an advantage なのかを日本語で説明しなさい。

問３　下線部（3）を日本語に訳しなさい。

問４　下線部（4）の語句は何があり得ないのか，日本語で説明しなさい。

問５ 下線部（5）の文において，その「理由」として最も適切なものを，（A）～（D）から選び，記号で答えなさい。

(A) They are cool and frightening at the same time.

(B) They combine our love of funny events with the comfort of predictability.

(C) They are packed with the kind of sounds one hears when many things fall to the floor.

(D) They avoid the risk of becoming boring by changing the writers.

問６ 本文の内容と一致するものを，(A)～(G) から３つ選び，記号で答えなさい。

(A) Television comedy writers borrowed the idea of running gags from radio comedies.

(B) The increasing popularity of radio has negatively impacted the popularity of television.

(C) A running gag can be defined as a joke or a humorous situation that is repeated.

(D) The television show called “Happy Days” was responsible for the decline of radio comedies.

(E) The very thing that makes running gags effective - repetition - can also make them lose their effectiveness.

(F) Running gags are no longer an important part of comedies.

(G) Arthur Fonzerelli in the television comedy “Happy Days” was a fashion model.

NOTE

第３講　国公立大英語長文演習③

次の英文を読んで，設問に答えなさい。

A recent study found that young people who have a sister are less (　A　) to report such feelings as being unhappy, sad or depressed. These findings are no accident; other studies have come to similar conclusions. But why would having a sister make you happier? The usual answer is that girls and women tend to talk about their emotions more often than boys and men. However, that may not be true. Women's styles of friendship and conversation aren't necessarily better than men's; they are simply different from men's ways of communication.

One woman, for example, said that she talked for hours (　B　) phone to her two brothers as well as her two sisters. But the topics were different. She talks to her sisters about their personal lives; with her brothers she discusses history geography and books. And, she added, (あ) one brother calls her at 5 a.m. and wakes her up as a joke on her.

A joke? Is this communication? Well it does remind her that he's always thinking of her. And talking for hours creates and reinforces connections with both brothers and sisters, (　C　) of what they talk about.

In another example, a student talked about the time when their family dog died. The brother and three sisters all telephoned one another. The sisters told each other how much they missed the dog and how terrible they felt. The brother expressed concern for everyone in the family but said nothing about what he himself was feeling.

The brother felt the same as his sisters, but he just didn't say it directly. So having the phone conversations served exactly the same purpose for him as the

sisters' calls did for them: (　D　) comfort at the time of their shared loss.

NOTE

Men don’t always feel a need to discuss their problems with others. For some men, doing things together can be a comfort in itself and another way to show caring. In one case, a man spent a day with a friend who was going (　E　) a divorce. When he returned home, his wife asked how his friend was dealing with the problem. (い) The man replied to his wife that he didn’t know how his friend felt about the divorce because they didn’t talk about it. The wife was annoyed with her husband. She felt that her husband’s friend needed to talk about what he was experiencing.

However, asking the friend about his divorce might have made that friend feel worse by reminding him of it. Perhaps just expressing concern could have (ア) come across as being critical, not helpful. The husband’s instincts about not talking about his friend’s problems hadn’t been wrong and he hadn’t let his friend down.

Yet the recent study still suggests the benefit of having sisters. For example, a pair of British psychologists found that young people who had grown up with at least one sister tended to be happier and more optimistic. Another British researcher found a (　F　) pattern among older adults. So what is going on? The reasons why people benefit from having sisters are much more (イ) subtle. Some of the participants in the studies have said that they talked to their sisters more often, at greater length and about more personal topics. This often meant that they felt closer to their sisters.

NOTE

A woman in her 80s said that she had been very close to her unmarried sister throughout their lives, but they never discussed their personal problems. Late in life, the sister came to live with the woman and her husband. The woman recalled that each morning after her husband got up to make coffee, her sister would stop by her bedroom to say good morning. The woman would urge her sister to sit with her in bed. As they sat up in bed side by side, holding hands, the woman and her sister would just talk.

It is (う) another type of conversation that many women have and many men don't understand the need to have. Some women often talk about their daily lives, for example a sweater they found on sale or other common activities. These seemingly pointless conversations are as comforting to some women as conversations about problems and troubles are to others.

So talk with a sister may make people happier but it doesn't need to be talk about emotions. When people talk to their sisters at greater length and about more personal topics, the crucial element is just to talk with each other as often as possible rather than discuss personal things.

This makes sense to someone who truly believes that women's ways of talking are not necessarily better than men's. It is possible that having sisters who like having long conversations about feelings or sisters who only enjoy discussing not so personal things, can both make someone happier.

［Why Sisterly Chats Make People Happier by Deborah Tannen, The New York Times, October 25, 2010 © 2023 The New York Times］

NOTE

(1) 空所（ A ）〜（ F ）に当てはまる最も適切なものを１〜４の中から一つずつ選び，記号で答えなさい。

(A)	1. happily	2. justly	3. kindly	4. likely
(B)	1. around	2. by	3. through	4. under
(C)	1. hopeless	2. pointless	3. regardless	4. unless
(D)	1. providing	2. seeing	3. testing	4. touching
(E)	1. by	2. on	3. through	4. with
(F)	1. better	2. dangerous	3. nicer	4. similar

(2) 波線部（ア）と（イ）の代わりに入れるのに，最も適切なものを１〜４の中から一つずつ選び，記号で答えなさい。

(ア) come across

1. been felt　　2. been ignored
3. been succeeded　　4. been worked

(イ) subtle

1. accurate　　2. conclusive
3. delicate　　4. skillful

(3) 本文中で，下線部（あ）の事柄は，兄弟と姉妹の関係にどのような心理的効果をもたらすとされていますか。日本語で答えなさい。

(4) 本文中で, 下線部（い）におけるように, 男性が離婚しようとしている友人に対し, 離婚の件についてあえて話をしなかった理由は何でしょうか。日本語で説明しなさい。

(5) 本文中で，下線部（う）の事柄は，ある女性たちにはどのような心理的効果があるとされていますか。日本語で説明しなさい。

(6) 本文中で，姉妹を持つことが人を幸福にする理由は何だとされていますか。日本語で説明しなさい。

第４講　国公立大英語長文演習④

次の英文を読んで，下記の設問に答えなさい。

We have all felt that little ‘zing’ when we see someone we fancy, and a much greater ‘ZING!’ when these feelings are shared by the other person. What is happening? The question of why we experience ‘zings’ can be answered at two levels - first, by asking what makes someone attractive, and second, by asking why we have evolved to find certain features attractive. The first is a question of immediate causes, and the second addresses the evolutionary significance of attraction. Usually, these two types of questions are tackled by different sorts of researchers, concentrating respectively on physiological mechanisms and evolutionary factors. But evolutionary biologists interested in sexual attraction have addressed them together.

Those evolutionary biologists who study animal behavior believe that a particular male and female have ended up coupling because either the female has chosen the male, the male has competed for and ‘won’ the female, or because both partners have come to some mutual agreement about liking each other. (1)It (　①　) (　②　) (　③　) first (　④　) (　⑤　) (　⑥　) (　⑦　) (　⑧　) context. In formulating his idea, about (　あ　) selection, he was concerned about traits that did nothing to promote their owners’ survival. The extravagant plumage of male birds and the cumbersome antlers of deer made their owners conspicuous and vulnerable to predators, so how could they possibly evolve by natural selection? Darwin’s answer was sexual selection. Extravagant traits probably did reduce their owners’ survival by making them more vulnerable to

predators, but they more than compensated by making their owners more competitive or more attractive to members of the opposite sex, so that they left more offspring — more copies of their genes — than less ornamented males.

NOTE

(2) Sexual selection accounts for many of the differences between males and females and Darwin saw it operating through two processes: competition between members of the same sex — usually males competing for females — and choice by one sex of some members of the other — usually females choosing among males. Competition between males for females accounted for the evolution of weapons such as teeth, spurs, and antlers, while choice of males by females accounted for otherwise useless ornaments such as plumes, wattles, and perfumes. (　い　) selection is about differential reproductive success — the more attractive or competitive individuals are, the more descendants they will leave.

(3) Darwin's contemporaries had no problem with the concept of male-male competition. They could see it happening in every farmyard, and the idea coincided nicely with Victorian ideas about sex being driven by active males pursuing passive partners. Female choice was another matter altogether. It was invisible, and anyway, it was felt, females probably did not have enough brainpower to make such informed choices.

NOTE

(4)When Darwin died, the idea of female choice all but died with him and, like Sleeping Beauty, remained essentially unconscious for one hundred years. The person who planted the awakening intellectual kiss and roused the whole field of sexual selection to new heights was behavioral ecologist Malte Andersson of the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. He conducted (5)an elegant experiment that involved shortening and elongating (using scissors and superglue) the tail feathers of long-tailed widowbirds, and showed that females preferred the long-tailed males. Female choice was alive and flying and, in later research, was shown to be widespread throughout the animal kingdom.

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NOTE

A. 下線部（1）の空所（ ① ）〜（ ⑧ ）を下のア〜クで埋め，本文の内容に最もふさわしい英文を完成させるとき，空所（ ② ）（ ⑥ ）（ ⑧ ）に入るものをそれぞれ記号で答えなさい。ただし，いずれの記号も一回ずつしか使えません。

ア . an　　イ . Charles Darwin　　ウ . evolutionary　　エ . into
オ . put　　カ . sexual attraction　　キ . was　　ク . who

B. 本文中の空所（ あ ），（ い ）に内容的に最もよく当てはまる語を本文中からそれぞれ選んで答えなさい。

C. 下線部（2）を日本語に訳しなさい。

D. 下線部（3）に意味が最も近いものを下のア〜エから選び，記号で答えなさい。

ア . As a modern scholar, Darwin was not concerned with problems that were related to make competitiveness.

イ . Darwin’s followers found competition between males and others to be a problematic idea.

ウ . Darwin’s modern age well understood the view that men like to compete with each other.

エ . People in Darwin’s time could easily understand the notion that males compete for females.

E．下線部（4）を日本語に訳しなさい。

F．下線部（5）とその後の研究でわかったことを 30 字以内の日本語で簡潔に説明しなさい。ただし，句読点も字数に含めます。

G. 本文の内容に最もよく当てはまる文を下のア～エから選び，記号で答えなさい。

ア. By asking what makes some males more attractive, evolutionary biologists investigate the social mechanisms by which animals leave more offspring.

イ. Darwin believed extravagant traits such as plumes and wattles could not possibly guarantee that predators would survive.

ウ. Extravagant traits can make their owners more competitive or more attractive to members of the opposite sex, but also more vulnerable to predators.

エ. That males are selected by females explains the evolution of bodily weapons such as teeth and spurs.

NOTE

第１講　　解答

＜解答＞

1. the transmission model：情報を伝達する機能
   the ritual model：読者を地域社会の一部としてまとめる機能
2. 全訳の下線部（B）を参照。
3. Attempts at other intervals have been tried but proven ineffective
4. 全訳の下線部（D）を参照。
5. （ア）②　　（イ）④　　（ウ）①　　（エ）③

＜全訳＞

新聞は人によって様々な意味を持つものだ。様々な機能があるのは，特に，広告主，読者，経営者，編集者，政治家，政府などが，様々なニーズを持つためだといえる。しかしながら，新聞が二つの異なる意思疎通の機能を果たしていると主張することは可能だ。文化理論家のジェームス・キャリーによると，新聞は，他のニュースメディアの様に情報を伝達することと，読者を地域社会の一部としてまとめることで機能する。彼はこの二つの機能をこう名付ける。伝達モデルと儀式モデルである。前者のモデルは，私たちによりなじみがある。新聞の最も重要で骨の折れる仕事は，毎日のニュースを提供することであると，私たちは皆信じてやまない。しかしながら，より注意深く精査をしてみると，新聞のページには，よく争いとなる，矛盾した様々な題材が，歴史的に掲載されていたことがわかる。内容と形式がはっきりとしないのが，新聞の特徴だ。デイリー・ユニバーサル・レジスターという後にタイムズになったものは，1785 年の創刊号で，様々な種類の関心に応じる必要性に注目した。「新聞は何か特定の目的に独占されるべきではなく，よく揃えられた食卓の様に，あらゆる好みに対するものが掲載されているべきだ」と，そこには記されていた。他の種類の出版を組み合わせたものは，新聞の発展に不可欠な要素だ。(B)<u>広告は，ニュースの供給や分析を含んだ内容に関する，一つの明らかな例だ。</u>論説や社説は，同時代の出来事の解説をしていた 17 世紀の会報にさかのぼることができる。クロスワードのようなパズルや娯楽のおかげで，読者は新聞に費やす時間をのんびりと過ごすことができる。19 世紀の新聞のフィクション，物語，小説の連載は，ニュースでも情報でもない内容が，どれほど新聞にとって不可欠な要素であったかということを示す，更なる例である。メディア理論家のデニス・マクウェールは，新聞が持つ複合的な目的に注目し

ている。それゆえ，ニュースや情報を伝達するという眼で新聞の歴史的な発展を見てしまうと，新聞が提供する様々な内容を除外してしまうことになる。

　それにもかかわらず，ニュースを供給することは，新聞の形式や内容にかなりの影響を与えている。こうしたことは，新聞を作ってきたいくつかの要因がもととなっているのだが，それは他の形式の印刷版ニュースと新聞を区別するものだ。定期的，そして頻繁な刊行が一つの特徴だ。新聞は，歴史上様々な間隔で発行されてきた。月刊，週刊，週に三度，日刊は最もよくある形態だ。他の発行間隔の試みもなされたが，効果がないことが明らかになった。印刷版ニュースは，一回限りの刊行として始まった。ある出来事が起きたずっと後に書かれた，その出来事に関する一回限りの説明で，「お話し」と命名され，その発生から報告の間の空白期間がとても長いので，その出来事の起きた年について言うだけで十分であった。後に，私たちが現代の日刊紙だと思うような定期的な出版を，新聞が確立した。定期的に刊行することには，日刊であれ，週刊であれ，月刊であれ，新聞に登場するものや，それがどう影響を及ぼすかに意味がある。ニュースや情報を集めることは，表面的な作業ではなくなり，最新の情報を集めて処理するのに，より組織的で慎重な試みとなる。(D)定期刊行に対応するのに考案された新しいフォーマットや方法は，新聞の内容や提示方法を決定する。

第１講 重要語彙リスト ＊一つ一つ何度も繰り返して，覚えてください

1	be attributed to	～が原因だ
2	editor	編集者
3	among others	特に
4	argue that	～と主張する
5	distinct	異なる
6	transmit	伝達する
7	bring ～ together	～をまとめる
8	label	名付ける
9	ritual	儀式
10	former	前者
11	provision	供給
12	scrutiny	綿密な調査
13	conflicting	争いのある
14	contradictory	矛盾する
15	indeterminate	不明瞭な
16	feature	特徴
17	draw attention to	～に関心を集める
18	cater	応じる
19	incorporation	組み込むこと
20	ingredient	要素
21	content	内容
22	editorial	論説
23	newsletter	会報
24	commentary	論評
25	contemporary	同時代の
26	multiple	複数の
27	through the prism	～の眼を通して
28	conveyance	伝達
29	exclude	除外する
30	serve up	果たす
31	considerable	かなりの
32	be responsible for	～の原因となる
33	distinguish A from B	A を B と区別する
34	interval	間隔
35	lapse	空白期間
36	sufficient	十分な
37	subsequently	後に
38	associate A with B	A を B と結び付ける，B で A を連想する
39	implication	含蓄，意味あい
40	devise	考案する

第１講　音読用白文　①　②　③　④　⑤　⑥　⑦　⑧　⑨　⑩

Newspapers mean different things to different people. A variety of functions can be attributed to the different needs of advertisers, readers, owners, editors, politicians, governments, among others. However, it is possible to argue that the newspaper carries out two distinct communication functions. According to cultural theorist James Carey, newspapers, like other news media, work by transmitting information and bringing readers together as part of a community. He labels these two functions: the transmission model and the ritual model. The former model is more familiar to us. We all accept that the newspaper's most important and exacting task is the provision of a daily supply of news. However, more careful scrutiny indicates that the pages of newspapers have historically included a variety of often conflicting and contradictory material. The indeterminate nature of their content and form is a feature of newspapers. The Daily Universal Register, which became The Times, drew attention in its first issue in 1785 to the need to cater for a wide variety of interests: "A newspaper," it stated, "ought not to be engrossed by any particular object, but, like a well-covered table; it should contain something for every palate." The incorporation of other types of publication is an essential ingredient in the development of the newspaper. Advertisements are one obvious example of content with the supply and analysis of news. Editorial and leading articles can be traced back to the handwritten newsletters of the seventeenth century which provided commentary on contemporary events. Puzzles and pastimes such as crosswords have helped readers while away the time spent with their newspaper. The serialization of fiction, stories and novels in nineteenth-century newspapers is a further example of how non-news and non-information content has always been an essential ingredient of the newspaper. Media theorist Denis McQuail draws attention to the multiple purpose of the newspaper. Thus to see the historical development of the newspaper through the prism of the conveyance of news and information is to exclude a variety of content newspapers serve up.

The provision of news nevertheless has had a considerable impact on the form and content of the newspaper. It has been responsible for several factors

that have shaped its production, distinguishing it from other forms of printed news. Regular and frequent publication is one feature. Newspapers have been published throughout history at different intervals; monthly, weekly, tri-weekly and daily have been the most common forms. Attempts at other intervals have been tried but proven ineffective. Printed news began as a one-off publication; a single account of an event written much longer after it had happened, it was labelled a "relation" and the lapse between the occurrence and its reporting was so long that it was only sufficient to mention the year in which the event took place. Subsequently the newspaper established the regularity of publication we associate with the modern daily paper. The regularity of publication, whether daily, weekly or monthly, has implications for what appears in a newspaper and how it operates. The gathering of news and information ceases to be a casual operation and becomes a more systematic and deliberate attempt to collect and process the latest information. The new formats and methods devised to respond to regular publication determine the content and presentation of newspapers.

第２講　　解答

＜解答＞

問１　C

問２　聴衆が，ラジオのコメディーの中で起こっていることを聞くことしかできないことで，想像力をかき立て，ギャグの効果を高めるから。

問３　全訳の下線部を参照。

問４　壊れたトースターや車を，手で軽くたたいたり，指をパチンと鳴らしたりするだけで直してしまうこと。

問５　B　　　　問６　A, C, E

＜全訳＞

コメディーはテレビで人気がある。例えば，「フレンズ」や「シンプソンズ」のような番組がある。こういったテレビのコメディーが人気な理由の一つは，効果的にジョークを混ぜて使うからだ。こうしたテレビのコメディーで見られるジョークの類いは，「定番ギャグ」と呼ばれている。定番ギャグは，コメディーの中で繰り返し起こるおかしな状況や，セリフのくだりである。この繰り返しが，一回の放映の中で起きたり，その次の放映の中でも起きたり，両方で起こるときもある。

定番ギャグは，実際には，テレビが広く普及する前，ラジオの「全盛期」にラジオコメディーの中で使われ始めた。この時代は，およそ 1930 年代から 1950 年代まで続いた。この番組で最も人気があったものの一つは，「フィバー・マギーとモリー」と呼ばれるものだった。このラジオのコメディーは，ある夫婦に関するもので，特に定番ギャグで有名だった。この定番ギャグでは，夫であるフィバー・マギーが何かを見つけるのにクローゼットを開けると，多くのものが毎回落っこちてくるのである。

聴衆は，フィバーが大きな声でこれからクローゼットを開けると宣言するので，これらのものが落っこちてくると知ることができた。言うまでもなく，これがラジオのコメディーだと考慮すると，聴衆は起きていることが，聞こえてくるだけである。フィバーがクローゼットを開けると，まるで多くの異なる種類のものが床に落ちてくるかのように，様々な大きな音が聞こえてくる。起きていることが聞こえてくるだけという事実は，欠点というよりは，むしろ利点であった。想像力が持つ力によって，この特有なギャグの効果が高まっていたのだ。

テレビのコメディーは 1950 年代の間，ラジオのコメディーよりも人気があったが，

ラジオで以前使われていたのと同じ技術を使い続けていた。この一つが定番ギャグだった。1970 年代のテレビのコメディー「ハッピーデイズ」という高校の友人グループに関する大人気の番組で，いくつかの良い例を見ることができる。このテレビのコメディーは，そのほとんどが主人公の一人であるアーサー・フォンザレリという名の若者に関するもので，多くの定番ギャグを使った。彼は，レザーコートを着て大きなバイクを乗り回すとても格好良い人間だった。このテレビのコメディーで使われる定番ギャグが，彼の格好良いという評判とよく結び付けられた。例えば，彼が鏡の前を通り過ぎると，ポケットからクシを取り出し，髪をかき上げ直すのだ。しかし彼は鏡で自分を見ると，自分は完璧だと思うので，毎回すぐにクシをポケットに戻すのだ。それは，まるで彼の外見にはもう改善は不要であるかのようだ。彼はとても格好良いので，一本の髪の毛でさえ不適当だ。また，鏡を見ると，彼は雑誌の表紙のモデルのようなポーズで，ズボンのポケットに親指を入れるのだ。このボディランゲージによって，さらにおかしくなるのは，彼が自信満々で誇らしげに見えるからだ。もう一つの定番ギャグでは，彼はポンと軽く手で叩いたり，指をパチンと鳴らしたりするだけで，壊れたトースターや車を修理できるのだ。これも，彼の格好良い性格を示すもので，ありえないからこそより面白かったのだ。それはまるで，あまりに格好良いので機械にさえ影響を与えられるかのような人であった。

　定番ギャグは，様々な理由でうまくいくように思える。まず初めに，とてもユーモアに富んでいるのだ。そのギャグがまたうまくいくのは，人が慣れ親しんだものが好きだからだ。人が満足感を感じることができるのは，何かが予測通りに起きて，その期待を満たしてくれる時なのだ。ここで紹介した定番ギャグは，この番組のたくさんの放映で繰り返し起きた。もちろん，もし同じ定番ギャグがあまりに使われると，退屈になるリスクがある。この理由のために，テレビのコメディーを書く人は，そのギャグに頼りすぎないように注意しなければならない。

第２講 重要語彙リスト ＊一つ一つ何度も繰り返して，覚えてください

1	include	含んでいる
2	effective	効果的な
3	dialog	セリフ
4	repeatedly	繰り返して
5	episode	1 回分の話
6	prior to	～より以前に
7	widespread	広範囲の
8	adoption	採用
9	era	時代
10	last	続く
11	be about to do	～しそうだ
12	announce	宣言する
13	given that ～	～と考慮すると
14	as if	まるで～かのように
15	object	物体
16	advantage	利点
17	limitation	制限，欠点
18	particular	特別な，特有の
19	predecessor	前任者
20	main character	主人公
21	individual	人
22	motorcycle	オートバイ
23	be connected to	～とつながっている
24	comb	クシ
25	touch up	修正する
26	thumb	親指
27	confident	自信のある
28	fix	修理する
29	tap on	叩く
30	briefly	簡単に
31	snap	パチンと鳴らす
32	demonstrate	示す
33	personality	性格
34	humorous	ユーモアに満ちた
35	predictably	予言できるほど
36	meet one’s expectations	～の期待を満たす
37	run a risk	リスクをおかす
38	boring	退屈な
39	rely upon	頼る
40	extensively	広範囲に

第２講 音読用白文 ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨ ⑩

Comedies are popular on television. Examples include such programs as "Friends" and "The Simpsons." One reason that these television comedies are funny is because they use an effective mix of jokes. One kind of joke in these television comedies is called a "running gag." A running gag is a funny situation or line of dialog that happens repeatedly in a comedy. This repetition can take place within a single episode, from one episode to the next, or both.

Running gags actually started to be used prior to the widespread adoption of television, in radio comedies during the "golden age" of radio. This era lasted from around the 1930s until the 1950s. One of the most popular of these shows was called "Fibber McGee and Molly." This radio comedy was about a husband and a wife and was especially famous for one running gag. In this running gag, when the husband, Fibber McGee, opened his closet to find something, many things would fall out every time.

The audience could know that these things were about to fall out because Fibber would announce in a loud voice that he was about to open his closet. Obviously, given that this was a radio comedy, the audience could only hear what was happening. When Fibber opened his closet, a variety of loud sounds could be heard as if many different types of objects were falling to the floor. The fact that people could only hear what was happening was an advantage rather than a limitation. The power of the imagination increased the effectiveness of this particular gag.

Although television comedies became more popular than those on the radio during the 1950s, they continued to use many of the same techniques as their radio predecessors. One of these was the running gag. Some good examples can be found in a 1970s television comedy called "Happy Days," a very popular show about a group of friends in high school. This television comedy used many running gags with most of them being about one of the main characters, a young man by the name of Arthur Fonzerelli. He was a very cool individual who wore a leather coat and rode a powerful motorcycle. The running gags used in this television comedy were often connected to his reputation for being cool. For example, when he passed a mirror, he would

take his comb out of his pocket to touch up his hair. But when he looked at himself in the mirror, he put his comb back quickly every time because he thought he was perfect. It was as if no further improvement to his appearance could be made; he was so cool that not even a single hair was ever out of place. Also, looking in the mirror, he would put his thumbs in the pockets of his pants like a model posing for the cover of a magazine. This body language made it funnier because he looked very confident and proud of himself. In another running gag, he could fix broken toasters or cars just by tapping on them briefly or simply by snapping his fingers. This also demonstrated his cool personality and was funnier because of its impossibility. It was as if a person could be so cool that they could even influence machines.

Running gags seem to work for different reasons. First, they are very humorous. They also work because people like familiar things. People can feel satisfied when something happens predictably, thus meeting their expectations. The running gags presented here occurred repeatedly in a number of episodes of these programs. Of course, if the same running gags are used too much, they run the risk of becoming boring. For this reason people who write television comedies have to be careful not to rely upon them too extensively.

第３講　解答

＜解答＞

(1)（A）4　（B）2　（C）3　（D）1　（E）3
（F）4

(2)（ア）1　（イ）3

(3) 常に相手のことを気にかけていることを思い出させる効果。

(4) その友人に離婚について尋ねることは、それを思い出すことで気分を悪くしたかもしれないし，心配しただけでは，助けるどころか，批判のように思われていたかもしれないから。

(5) 一見意味のない会話が，問題やトラブルについての会話が一部の人間に好かれるのと同様に一部の女性に心地よいものになる効果がある。

(6) 姉妹を持つことで，出来る限り多く話をする機会に恵まれるから。

＜全訳＞

姉妹のいる若い人は，不幸，悲しい，あるいは鬱のような感情を訴える可能性が低いことが，最近の研究によって分かった。こうした研究結果は偶然のものではなく，他の研究でも，似たような結論に達してきた。しかし，なぜ姉妹がいると，より幸せになるのだろうか。女の子や女性は，男の子や男性よりも自分の感情について話をする傾向が強いというのが, よくある答えだ。しかし, それは真実ではないかもしれない。女性の友情や会話の表現方法は，必ずしも男性のそれより優れているとは限らない。女性の表現方法は，男性のコミュニケーションの方法とは全く違うのだ。

例えば，ある女性は二人の姉妹だけではなく，二人の兄弟とも電話で何時間も話をしたと言っていた。しかし，その話題は異なるものだった。彼女は自分の姉妹に個人的な生活に関する話をしていた。兄弟とは，歴史や地理，本について話をしていた。そして一人の兄が午前 5 時に彼女に電話をしてきて，冗談で彼女を起こしたと，彼女はつけ加えた。

冗談？　これはコミュニケーションなのだろうか。実際それにより，兄がいつも自分を気にかけていることを彼女は思い出す。そして，その話題にかかわらず何時間も話すことで，兄弟姉妹両方の関係を作り，強くしている。

もう一つの例では，ある学生が家族の犬が亡くなった時のことについて話していた。

兄と三人の姉妹は全員お互いに電話をした。姉妹はお互いに，どれほど犬を恋しく思っているか，どれほどひどい気分になったかを話していた。兄は，家族のみんなに対する心配をしていたが，彼自身の感情については何も言わなかった。

兄は姉妹と同じように感じたが，彼は単にそれを直接言わなかっただけだ。だから，電話で会話をしたことで，姉妹の電話とまさに同じ目的を果たしていた。すなわち，喪失感を共有したときに慰めを与えることだ。

男性は必ずしも，他人と問題を話し合う必要性を感じるとは限らない。一部の男性にとって，一緒に何かをやることはそれ自体が慰めとなる可能性があり，配慮を示すもう一つの方法だ。ある時，ある男性が離婚協議の最中の友人と一日を過ごした。彼が家に戻ると，妻は友人がその問題にどう取り組んでいるのかを尋ねた。その男性は，離婚について話をしなかったから，友人がどう感じていたのかわからないと妻に答えた。妻は夫にいらいらした。彼女は，夫の友人は自分が経験していることについて話す必要があると感じていた。

しかし，離婚について尋ねることによって，友人はそれを思い出し，気分を悪くしたかもしれない。ひょっとすると，心配しただけでは，助けるどころか，批判のように思われていたかもしれない。友人の問題について話をしないという夫の本能は，間違ってはおらず，友人を落ち込ませることはなかったのだ。

しかし，最近の研究ではいまだに，姉妹を持つことの利点が示されている。例えば，少なくとも 1 人の姉か妹がいて育った若い人は，より幸せに，より楽観的になる傾向にあるということを 2 人のイギリス人心理学者が発見した。もう一人のイギリス人研究者は，年を取った大人にも同様のパターンがあることを発見した。そこでは，何が起こっているのか。

人が姉妹を持つことで利益を得る理由は，ずっと微妙なものだ。その研究の被験者の中には，より多く，より詳細に，そしてより個人的な話題について姉妹に話をしたという人もいた。これはたいてい，姉妹により親近感を覚えることを意味していた。

ある 80 歳代の女性は，生涯を通じて，未婚の姉ととても親密であったが，一度も個人的な問題で話し合うことはなかったと言っていた。人生の後半で，その姉は，その女性，その夫と一緒に暮らすようになった。毎朝夫が起きてコーヒーを入れた後，彼女の姉が彼女の寝室に立ち寄っておはようと言ったことを，その女性は思い出した。女性は姉にベッドに座るようによく勧めたものだ。手を握って，ベッドに並んで座りながら，二人はただ話をしたものだった。

多くの女性が行うが，多くの男性がその必要性を理解しないもう一種類の会話がある。女性の中には，例えばセールで見つけたセーターや他の共通の活動となる日常生

活についてよく話をする人がいる。問題やトラブルについての会話が一部の人間に好まれるのと同様に，こういった一見意味のない会話は一部の女性にとって心地よいものになる。

だから，姉妹と話をすることで，人はより幸せにはなるが，感情について話す必要はない。人が姉妹とより詳細に，そしてより個人的な話題について話をする際に重要な要素は，個人的なことについて話すというのではなく，出来る限り多くお互いとただ話すということだ。

これは，女性の話し方が必ずしも男性の話し方より優れているわけではないと本当に信じている人にとって意味を成す。感情について長く話をするのが好きな姉妹や，あまり個人的ではないことを話して楽しむだけの姉妹を持つことは，両方とも誰かをより幸せにする可能性がある。

第３講　重要語彙リスト　　＊一つ一つ何度も繰り返して，覚えてください

1	conclusion	結論
2	not necessarily	必ずしも～とは限らない
3	geography	地理
4	reinforce	補強する
5	connection	関係
6	terrible	ひどい
7	serve	果たす
8	comfort	慰め
9	in itself	それ自体で
10	divorce	離婚
11	be annoyed with	～にいらいらする
12	come across as	～と思われる
13	critical	批判的な
14	instinct	本能
15	let O down	O を落ち込ませる
16	optimistic	楽観的な
17	subtle	微妙な
18	participant	被験者
19	at length	詳細に
20	urge O to do	O に～するように勧める
21	side by side	並んで
22	seemingly	一見すると
23	pointless	意味のない
24	crucial	重要な，決定的な
25	element	要素
26	B rather than A	A というよりむしろ B
27	make sense	意味を成す

第３講　音読用白文　①　②　③　④　⑤　⑥　⑦　⑧　⑨　⑩

A recent study found that young people who have a sister are less likely to report such feelings as being unhappy, sad or depressed. These findings are no accident; other studies have come to similar conclusions. But why would having a sister make you happier? The usual answer is that girls and women tend to talk about their emotions more often than boys and men. However, that may not be true. Women’s styles of friendship and conversation aren’t necessarily better than men’s; they are simply different from men’s ways of communication.

One woman, for example, said that she talked for hours by phone to her two brothers as well as her two sisters. But the topics were different. She talks to her sisters about their personal lives; with her brothers she discusses history geography and books. And, she added, one brother calls her at 5 a.m. and wakes her up as a joke on her.

A joke? Is this communication? Well it does remind her that he’s always thinking of her. And talking for hours creates and reinforces connections with both brothers and sisters, regardless of what they talk about.

In another example, a student talked about the time when their family dog died. The brother and three sisters all telephoned one another. The sisters told each other how much they missed the dog and how terrible they felt. The brother expressed concern for everyone in the family but said nothing about what he himself was feeling.

The brother felt the same as his sisters, but he just didn’t say it directly. So having the phone conversations served exactly the same purpose for him as the sisters’ calls did for them: providing comfort at the time of their shared loss.

Men don’t always feel a need to discuss their problems with others. For some men, doing things together can be a comfort in itself and another way to show caring. In one case, a man spent a day with a friend who was going through a divorce. When he returned home, his wife asked how his friend was dealing with the problem. The man replied to his wife that he didn’t know how his friend felt about the divorce because they didn’t talk about it. The wife was

annoyed with her husband. She felt that her husband's friend needed to talk about what he was experiencing.

However, asking the friend about his divorce might have made that friend feel worse by reminding him of it. Perhaps just expressing concern could have come across as being critical, not helpful. The husband's instincts about not talking about his friend's problems hadn't been wrong and he hadn't let his friend down.

Yet the recent study still suggests the benefit of having sisters. For example, a pair of British psychologists found that young people who had grown up with at least one sister tended to be happier and more optimistic. Another British researcher found a similar pattern among older adults. So what is going on?

The reasons why people benefit from having sisters are much more subtle. Some of the participants in the studies have said that they talked to their sisters more often, at greater length and about more personal topics. This often meant that they felt closer to their sisters.

A woman in her 80s said that she had been very close to her unmarried sister throughout their lives, but they never discussed their personal problems. Late in life, the sister came to live with the woman and her husband. The woman recalled that each morning after her husband got up to make coffee, her sister would stop by her bedroom to say good morning. The woman would urge her sister to sit with her in bed. As they sat up in bed side by side, holding hands, the woman and her sister would just talk.

It is another type of conversation that many women have and many men don't understand the need to have. Some women often talk about their daily lives, for example a sweater they found on sale or other common activities. These seemingly pointless conversations are as comforting to some women as conversations about problems and troubles are to others.

So talk with a sister may make people happier but it doesn't need to be talk about emotions. When people talk to their sisters at greater length and about more personal topics, the crucial element is just to talk with each other as often as possible rather than discuss personal things.

This makes sense to someone who truly believes that women's ways of talking are not necessarily better than men's. It is possible that having sisters

who like having long conversations about feelings or sisters who only enjoy discussing not so personal things, can both make someone happier.

第４講 解答

＜解答＞

A. ② イ ⑥ エ ⑧ ウ

B. （あ）natural （い）sexual

C. 全訳の下線部(2)を参照。

D. エ

E. 全訳の下線部(4)を参照。

F. 雌が長い尾の雄を好むような選択が動物界に広がっていること。

G. ウ

＜全訳＞

私達は皆，好きな人に出会うと，ちょっと「ビビビ」と感じてしまい，この感情を他の人と共有すると，かなり強く「ビビビ」と感じる。何が起きているのか。私たちがなぜ「ビビビ」と感じるかという疑問は，二段階で回答することができる。第一に，人はなぜ魅力的になるかを尋ねること，そして第二に，なぜ私たちは進化してある特徴を魅力的だと思うのかを尋ねることだ。最初の疑問は，直接の原因であり，二番目は進化の側面から魅力が持つ意義に取り組むことだ。たいていは，これら二種類の疑問は異なる種類の研究者が取り組んでおり，生理学上の仕組みと進化の要因にそれぞれ集中している。しかし，性的な魅力に興味を持つ進化生物学者は，それらを一緒にして取り組んでいる。

動物の行動を研究する進化生物学者は，特定の雄や雌が最終的に結ばれるのは，雌が雄を選ぶか，雄が競争して雌を「勝ち取る」か，あるいは両性がお互い好きになることについて相互承諾に至ることが原因だと信じている。

性的な魅力を進化の文脈で最初に説明したのは，チャールズ・ダーウィンだった。自然淘汰に関する考えを明確にする際に，彼はその持ち主の生存を促すことに何の役にも立たない特徴を心配していた。雄の鳥の派手な羽や鹿の非常に長い角が，その所有者を目立たせて，捕食者に攻撃されやすくなるから，どうやって自然淘汰で進化できたのだろうか。ダーウィンの解答は，性淘汰だった。派手な特徴はおそらく，捕食者により攻撃されやすくなることで，所有者の生存率を実際に減らしていたが，その特徴は所有者をその反対の性別に対して，より競争優位に，より魅力的にすることで，補う以上のことをしており，結果として，あまり飾りのない雄よりもより多くの子孫，

すなわち，その遺伝子のコピーを残した。

(2)性淘汰は，雄と雌の違いの多くを説明しており，ダーウィンは，それが二つの過程を通じて影響を及ぼしているのを目にした。たいていは雄が雌を求めて競争する同性間の競争，そしてたいていは雌が雄を選ぶ，一方の性が他方の性を選ぶというものだ。雌を求める雄同士の競争が原因で，歯，けづめ，角のような武器が進化してきたが，雌が雄を選ぶのは，そうでなければ役に立たない羽，ひげ，においのような飾りが原因であった。性淘汰は異なる繁殖上の成功に関するもので，個体が魅力的で競争優位であればあるほど，それだけ多くの子孫を残すだろうということだ。

ダーウィンと同時代の人は，雄同士の競争という概念に何も問題を覚えなかった。彼らはそれが全ての農場で起きているのを目にできただろうし，その考えは，受け身のパートナーを追い求める積極的な雄によって突き動かされた，性に関するビクトリア朝の考えとしっかりと一致していた。雌の選択は，完全に別の問題だった。それは目に見えないものではあるが，とにかく，雌はそのような情報に基づく選択をするほどの脳の力を持っていなかったのではないかと感じられた。

(4)ダーウィンが亡くなると，雌の選択という考えは彼とともにほぼ消えたが，眠れる森の美女のように，百年間本質的に意識が向けられないままであった。目覚めの知的なキスをして，性淘汰全体のフィールドを新たな高みへと引き上げた人は，スウェーデンにあるヨーテボリ大学の行動生態学者，マルテ・アンダーソンだった。彼は洗練された実験を行い，そこではハサミやのりを使って，長い尾を持つハタオドリの尾の羽を短くしたり長くしたりしたのだが，雌は尾の長い雄を好むことを示した。雌の選択は生きていて，広がっており，後の研究で，動物の王国全体に広がっているとわかった。

第４講　重要語彙リスト　　＊一つ一つ何度も繰り返して，覚えてください

1	fancy	好む
2	evolve	進化する
3	certain	ある
4	feature	魅力
5	immediate	直接の
6	address	取り組む
7	significance	意義
8	tackle	取り組む
9	respectively	それぞれ
10	physiological	生理学上の
11	mechanism	仕組み
12	end up 〜ing	最終的に〜する
13	couple	結ばれる
14	mutual	相互の
15	formulate	明確にする
16	trait	特徴
17	extravagant	派手な
18	conspicuous	目立つ
19	vulnerable	弱い
20	predator	捕食者
21	natural selectin	自然淘汰
22	opposite	反対の
23	offspring	子孫
24	gene	遺伝子
25	ornament	飾る
26	account for	〜を説明する
27	spur	けづめ
28	perfume	におい
29	reproductive	繁殖の
30	descendant	子孫
31	contemporary	同時代の人
32	coincide with	〜と一致する
33	passive	受動的な
34	altogether	完全に
35	invisible	目に見えない
36	all but	ほとんど
37	rouse	〜をかき立てる，〜を目覚めさせる
38	elegant	優雅な
39	elongate	長くする
40	widespread	広がる

第４講　音読用白文　①　②　③　④　⑤　⑥　⑦　⑧　⑨　⑩

We have all felt that little ‘zing’ when we see someone we fancy, and a much greater ‘ZING!’ when these feelings are shared by the other person. What is happening? The question of why we experience ‘zings’ can be answered at two levels - first, by asking what makes someone attractive, and second, by asking why we have evolved to find certain features attractive. The first is a question of immediate causes, and the second addresses the evolutionary significance of attraction. Usually, these two types of questions are tackled by different sorts of researchers, concentrating respectively on physiological mechanisms and evolutionary factors. But evolutionary biologists interested in sexual attraction have addressed them together.

Those evolutionary biologists who study animal behavior believe that a particular male and female have ended up coupling because either the female has chosen the male, the male has competed for and ‘won’ the female, or because both partners have come to some mutual agreement about liking each other.

It was Charles Darwin who first put sexual attraction into an evolutionary context. In formulating his idea, about natural selection, he was concerned about traits that did nothing to promote their owners’ survival. The extravagant plumage of male birds and the cumbersome antlers of deer made their owners conspicuous and vulnerable to predators, so how could they possibly evolve by natural selection? Darwin’s answer was sexual selection. Extravagant traits probably did reduce their owners’ survival by making them more vulnerable to predators, but they more than compensated by making their owners more competitive or more attractive to members of the opposite sex, so that they left more offspring — more copies of their genes — than less ornamented males.

Sexual selection accounts for many of the differences between males and females and Darwin saw it operating through two processes: competition between members of the same sex — usually males competing for females — and choice by one sex of some members of the other — usually females

choosing among males. Competition between males for females accounted for the evolution of weapons such as teeth, spurs, and antlers, while choice of males by females accounted for otherwise useless ornaments such as plumes, wattles, and perfumes. sexual selection is about differential reproductive success — the more attractive or competitive individuals are, the more descendants they will leave.

Darwin's contemporaries had no problem with the concept of male-male competition. They could see it happening in every farmyard, and the idea coincided nicely with Victorian ideas about sex being driven by active males pursuing passive partners. Female choice was another matter altogether. It was invisible, and anyway, it was felt, females probably did not have enough brainpower to make such informed choices.

When Darwin died, the idea of female choice all but died with him and, like Sleeping Beauty, remained essentially unconscious for one hundred years. The person who planted the awakening intellectual kiss and roused the whole field of sexual selection to new heights was behavioral ecologist Malte Andersson of the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. He conducted an elegant experiment that involved shortening and elongating (using scissors and superglue) the tail feathers of long-tailed widowbirds, and showed that females preferred the long-tailed males. Female choice was alive and flying and, in later research, was shown to be widespread throughout the animal kingdom.

Ⓒ RECRUIT
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